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do with Personix, right?

Andrew M. Garner, III

Page 242 Page 244 A. Yes. 1 A. No. 1 2 Q. And so when you went to Mr. Jensen 2 Q. And hopefully we will have time to 3 talk about the Personix memo in a little bit. 3 and talked to him about the False Claim Act, is 4 it accurate to say that you were telling him 4 But tell me exactly what it was that caused you 5 that this was something that was in the back of to believe you were being pressured or under 5 your mind that you were at least thinking over? pressure as a result of sending an E-mail to 6 6 7 7 A. Jim, you make it sound like I went Mr. Jensen about Personix. 8 specifically to Mr. Jensen. Mr. Jensen and I 8 A. Well, it's been seven years, so had -- our offices were right next door to each 9 it's hard to recall a hundred percent of the other. We were friends. We went to lunch 10 detail, but I just remember in some of the 10 conversations I had with Michael over time that together often. We would ride to Indianapolis 11 11 together often. We would run together. We the company doesn't want to know about the 12 12 would do things together. We had conversations fraud, and that if it gets ugly, what will 13 13 standing in a urinal in the men's room. I happen is there will be pressure coming down on 14 14 15 can't remember every single conversation that 15 you from -- that won't be related to that, and we had and where it took place and the intent that you may be put on disciplinary action, you 16 16 may be put -- you know, you may be demoted, you of the conversation. 17 17 MR. DYER: Could you read the 18 18 may wind up even losing your job within the question back, please? organization, but to get you away from your 19 19 (Record read.) access to the data which may be damning of the 20 20 21 THE WITNESS: Yes. 21 organization. 22 Q. And is that also true essentially 22 So I started feeling those kind of 23 what you told Mrs. O'Rourke on that day, as 23 pressures, you know, from within the 24 well? organization. You know, calls from Kathy 24 25 A. I believe so. 25 Hinkle, you know, wanting to know -- it's hard Page 245 Page 243 Q. Is that also true essentially what to recall exactly what she wanted to know at 1 1 2 you told Mr. Dundes on this day, as well? 2 that point, but just -- I just felt pressure, 3 3 A. I believe so. under pressure. 4 O. Now --4 Q. I can understand it's been a long THE WITNESS: Can we take a break time, but what I am trying to understand is, 5 5 6 for just a second? Can we take a break for 6 and please accept my stipulation on this, you 7 may remember, but the date of your E-mail on just a second? 7 8 MR. DYER: Can we do it fast? If Personix that we hope to look at yet today was 8 sometime in mid March, March 15th, March 18th. 9 you need a break, let's --9 10 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do. I 10 Does that ring a bell with you? apologize. I didn't go to the bathroom. A. I recall it was sometime in the 11 11 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are off the month of March. I don't remember the specific 12 12 13 record. 13 day. 14 (Thereupon, an off-the-record 14 Q. And what I'm trying to get at is discussion was held.) from the date you wrote that E-mail until 15 15 16 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are on the April the 1st, when you had this conversation 16 17 record. with Ms. O'Rourke, what do you remember about 17 18 Q. Mr. Garner, I want to go back to conversations or communications of any kind 18 the Exhibit 14 and the conversation with 19 that heightened your concern and resulted in 19 Ms. O'Rourke. I think you started to tell me 20 20 you being so agitated that morning? 21 that you were agitated when you had this 21 A. Right. I don't recall the 22 conversation with Ms. O'Rourke in part because 22 specific conversations that I had. I just 23 you were feeling pressure as a result of your 23 recall at the time feeling very threatened as a report to Mr. Jensen about concerns having to

result of me bringing this information forward

to Michael. You know, he had always told me

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The United States of America, ex rel., Andrew M. Garner, III v. Anthem Insurance Companies, et al.

Page 270

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Q. Now, in the interim between the first meeting and the second meeting, I just want to be sure I had the timeline right when I asked you this before, did you make any effort to contact Ms. Gross or Mr. Brown or anyone else at Anthem to explain why you thought your termination was not proper?

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- A. I don't believe so, because I was warned not to contact anyone, so I did not speak to anyone, and I was in fear of telling Gross or Brown, based upon what I had been told from Michael, that they don't want to know about it, and if you are the one that brings it up, you are out of here, that I wasn't going to bring it up.
- Q. So you thought you were going to be fired, but you were afraid to raise the issue?
- A. I wasn't sure until I was fired that that was what was happening, and I wanted to preserve any possibility of a false claims suit, because what I had been told was that we will just fix whatever you bring up. So if I had given all of the details, that would have given them opportunity to clean all the mess

Andrew M. Garner, III

Page 272

A. Yes.

- Q. And if -- you were afraid if the company fixed the issues that they were out of compliance on, that that might hurt you in your ability to pursue a lawsuit? Is that what you are saying?
- A. At that point, yes, after I had been -- knew that my termination was immediate, you know, I was going to be terminated.
- Q. Well, but you didn't know that after the first meeting, did you?

A. No.

- O. And, in fact, what you said was you were afraid to call anybody, because you were afraid that might precipitate getting fired, right?
 - A. True.
- 18 Q. But in the interim, it was -- the thought in your mind was if I tell them what's 19 20 wrong, they will figure it out and fix it, 21 right?
 - A. And, therefore, I would be fired, and I would have no recourse. Yes.
 - Q. Handing you what has been marked as Exhibit 21. I know these aren't your notes,

Page 271

Page 273

up. (Thereupon, Defendants' Exhibit 21 was marked for purposes of identification.)

- Q. Let me hand you what has been marked as Exhibit 21. Just before you turn to that and look at that, Mr. Garner, if I understand it, then, one of the reasons that you decided not to communicate with Ms. Gross and Mr. Brown, who you knew you could communicate with, right --
- A. I wasn't sure I could communicate with them.
- Q. I mean, they were the ones that had met with you, and they told you to contact at least Kathy O'Neill, right? She was in HR. Didn't they? Yes?
- A. Yes. That's what it states here. I don't recall that specifically though.
- Q. But one of the reasons that you decided not to raise any of the issues you had raised about fraud or noncompliance with contracts with Ms. O'Neill or Mr. Brown or Ms. Gross is because you were afraid the company would fix it. Is that what I heard you say?

- 1 and I know it's not your handwriting, but, 2 fortunately, they are fairly legible, and I am going ask you to look at the bracketed 3 materials at the top of Exhibit 21 and ask you 4 5 if that is an accurate summary of some of the comments that were made to you at this second meeting in Mason by Ms. Gross.
 - A. That's not what I remember.
 - Q. Do you deny that any of these comments were made?
 - A. No. What I'm saying is that's not what I recall.
 - Q. Okay.
- 14 A. What I recall is saying that I was being terminated because that I had made 15 16 statements that caused management to no longer 17 trust me.
- Q. Is there anything else you recall 18 that you were told? 19
- A. Specifically towards the bracketed 20 items or to the entire memo? 21
 - Q. For the whole conversation.
 - A. Okay. I do remember that I was given two options. One option would be to be terminated for cause and be given two weeks'

The United States of America, ex rel., Andrew M. Garner, III v. Anthem Insurance Companies, et al.

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Page 282 Page 284 Q. And those were all items that A. I believe that they were. 1 Anthem FEP needed to purchase from a vendor in 2 Q. Okay. And you wrote this letter the ordinary course of business, correct? It 3 to Michael, and -- let me back up, though. You have told us what services Personix provided. needed those items in order to do its business. 4 In essence, Personix was a vendor to Anthem didn't it? 5 FEP, just like Kinko's would be or some other A. Correct. 6 printing service kind of a company, right, Q. And you are not suggesting that 7 these were services that Anthem FEP didn't 8 although very specialized? need, right, that Personix provided? 9 A. That would probably be a good A. No, I don't believe so. But there 10 analogy. may have been bills that showed up for services O. And you had money in your budget 11 at Anthem FEP both for the service benefit plan that weren't related to FEP from Personix, but 12 12 and the HMO to pay for printing expenses I'm not stating that the services that they 13 13 performed by vendors like Personix, right? 14 provided FEP were not necessary services for 14 15 FEP. There's a slight nuance in that. 15 A. Yes, that's what I recall. MR. KELLER: Jim, are you getting 16 Q. And, in fact, as the marketing ready -- can we go off the record a second? manager, many of the expenses that were 17 incurred as a result of services provided by MR. DYER: Sure. 18 Personix were for your budget, right? THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are off the 19 20 record. 20 A. I believe so. (Thereupon, an off-the-record 21 Q. And that's because things like membership cards and open enrollment materials discussion was held.) 22 and membership directories all were under the (Thereupon, Defendants' Exhibit 32 23 function of marketing: is that right? was marked for purposes of identification.) 24 24

Page 283

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Page 285

Andrew M. Garner, III

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record.
     Q. Handing you what has been marked
as Exhibit 32. Can you identify that as the
E-mail you have referred to earlier in your
testimony that you sent to Michael Jensen on or
about March 13, 1998?
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THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are on the

- A. It appears to be.
- Q. That's your Bates number, your name at the bottom of this, isn't it?
- A. I'm not familiar with the term Bates number. I'm sorry.
- Q. Well, that is your name at the 12 bottom, isn't it? 13
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. All right. And this is a document that you recall taking with you from Anthem when you left, right?
 - A. I believe so, yes.
- Q. Now, Exhibit 31 is -- subject is 19 20 Personix potential fraud. Do you see that?
 - A. I do.
- 22 Q. And at the time you wrote this
- 23 E-mail, am I accurate in saying that it was
- 24 your understanding that Personix was owned in 25 part by Anthem?

yes. Membership cards, I don't believe so. 2 But provider directories and benefit brochures, 3

A. Some of the items you spoke about,

- Q. And provider directories was one of the larger ticket items that vendors like Personix were hired to print, correct?
 - A. For FEP, correct.
 - Q. For Anthem FEP, correct?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And so as part of your duties and responsibilities as the director of marketing, your job was to be sure that the invoices you got from Personix and other outside vendors charging the marketing department were fair and appropriate for the services that were delivered, right?
- A. I recall that that was part of my responsibility.
- Q. And when an invoice came in from Personix or any other vendor that had a discrepancy in it, that didn't look to you or one of your people like it was accurate, then it was your job to track that down and be sure that the company was only getting charged for services performed for it, right?

The United States of America, ex rel., Andrew M. Garner, III v. Anthem Insurance Companies, et al.

Andrew M. Garner, III

Page 288

Page 289

Page 286 A. Yes. Q. And in this E-mail, you alerted Mr. Jensen, then, to a billing problem with Personix, correct? A. Yes. Q. In essence, you were complaining that Personix was sending invoices to FEP for services that were not actually delivered to FEP, right? A. That's what I recall.

- Q. And sending this E-mail to
 Mr. Jensen was a response to the fact that
 ultimately, as director of marketing, your
 budget was going to get hit for services that
 were being performed -- or, excuse me, for
 payments made for services that weren't
 performed, right?
- A. Payments were being made for services that were not performed for FEP.
- Q. But actually what this memo is talking about is billings, correct?
 - A. Invoices.

Q. Yeah. There's nothing in here that suggests that payments had actually been made, right? You are not complaining about 1 jury with any certainty that Anthem FEP
2 actually paid money to Personix that Personix
3 didn't deserve to get?

- A. No, because they got rid of me before I was able to determine whether or not that's the case.
- Q. It's accurate to say that as you sit here today, you have no way to know whether or not any of the improper invoices you were talking about were paid by Anthem FEP. Is that a fair statement?

MR. KELLER: Objection, asked and answered.

- Q. Is that a fair statement, sir?
- A. Based on my knowledge that I have today, I cannot tell you whether or not these invoices were paid or not.
- Q. And so if we go back to this memo, in essence, you were raising a red flag in writing about a billing problem with Personix, right?
 - A. Based on this memo, yes.
- Q. And you directed that to Mr. Jensen, and an investigation was undertaken, correct?

A. Yes.

Page 287

improper payments. You are complaining about improper billings. Am I reading that correctly?

- A. Correct.
- Q. And from the time you wrote this memo until the time you left as an employee a couple weeks later of Anthem FEP, is it accurate to say that you had no facts or information to know whether payments had actually been made based on improper billings received from Personix. Fair statement?
- A. No. I don't recall the outcome of the investigation that was undertaken. I remember having discussions with Michael, not in a formal setting, that he was looking into this practice. But I also recall him stating you shouldn't have put that in writing. We don't want these kind of things in writing.

And when I was terminated, there was no resolution that I'm aware of at that time about what happened with Personix and the invoices that I felt were being submitted

23 improperly.24 Q. So a

Q. So as you sit here today, you can't say to the ladies and gentlemen of the

Q. And when you left, theinvestigation was still ongoing as best youknew, right?

A. As best I knew.

Q. And as you sit here today, you have no idea of the outcome of that investigation, do you?

A. Not to my knowledge.

- Q. Now, Mr. Garner, as the director of marketing, when a vendor sends you an invoice, you had the ability to simply say we are not going to pay that invoice, or if a payment had been made to stop paying future invoices, didn't you?
- A. As I previously stated that what would happen in the invoicing process is that a purchase order would be initiated by Anthem. Those purchase orders would be placed on file within the accounts payable department, and when an invoice came in that had that purchase order number on it, they would get paid without having further signature from the manager or director or vice president of the department for whom the services were rendered based upon the invoice with that purchase order.

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Andrew M. Garner, III

Page 292

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So my complaint was was that they were using purchase orders that they had on file and were using those purchase orders in order to get invoices paid. And I don't recall today whether or not my inquiry was based upon invoices that I knew had been paid and I was looking at a report subsequent to the payment, or if they were invoices that had been paid -had been waiting to be paid, and I was looking at it pre. But I think it was on invoices that had been paid if I -- as I speak about it now and think about what the process was.

- Q. Well, you don't say anything about being paid in this memo. We have already looked at it for that, right? If I'm missing something --
- A. It does not state that they were paid.
- 19 Q. And, in fact, you say they may be 20 attempting to get costs paid by the government, don't you?
 - A. They may, but they may just have been putting it down because they had the wrong number.
 - Q. But as far as you knew at this

manager, about stopping this practice and it was ongoing, that there may be more to it than just putting the wrong purchase order number on there. So as a result of that concern, I wanted to bring it to Michael's attention.

- Q. But even though you had that concern, you still didn't feel like you had enough evidence to say they were committing fraud, and, as a result, you wanted to make clear you weren't making an accusation. Fair statement?
 - A. I -- yes.
- Q. And as a result of that, it's accurate to say that at the time you wrote this memo, you didn't know if there was a billing glitch going on at Personix or an incompetent accounting person you were talking to, or if there was a scheme or an intent to commit fraud, right?
 - A. I did not know that at the time.
- Q. You didn't know one way or the other, did you?
- A. No, that's why I suggested there be an investigation taken on.
 - Q. And that's because you didn't want

Page 291

time, and your testimony today is you don't know one way or another whether money had actually gone out the door or whether you had bad invoices being stacked up?

- A. I don't recall.
- Q. Now, with regard to the billing problems, is it accurate to say that as you go down in that second paragraph, you say that I am not making an accusation, and then you put in parentheses, spelling, but rather feel that there is evidence which may suggest an investigation be taken on. Did I read that correctly?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And, in fact, you weren't making an accusation. You were just raising some evidence that caused you a concern. Fair statement?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. What you really wanted was for somebody to look into this and see if this was a billing snafu or if it was intentional misconduct by someone at Personix, right?
- A. I was concerned that since I had repeatedly spoken to Personix, the account

Page 293 this money coming out of your marketing budget if, in fact, it was an overpayment or a payment for services that weren't provided, right?

- A. My recollection was is that the services were definitely not provided to me, and I should not be paying it, so I was concerned -- I did not want the money coming out of my marketing budget, correct.
- Q. You go on to say you may want to check with Mark. Is that Mark Johnson?
 - A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Why did you say check with Mark 13 Johnson?
 - A. Oh, because he was in Indiana, and he was most likely receiving invoices from Personix, as well. So I thought that maybe he would -- Mark was the senior person on staff in Indiana, so he probably would be a person who would have noticed that activity over there, as well.
- 21 Q. But that was speculation on your 22 part that you just wanted Mr. Jensen to follow 23 up on and track down, right?
 - A. It was speculation that there may be activity in Indiana? Is that what you are

The United States of America, ex rel., Andrew M. Garner, III v. Anthem Insurance Companies, et al.

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happened.

him earlier?

A. Yes. I didn't tell him

saying?

there.

Page 296 Page 294 1 A. No. Q. Okay. Let's stick to things you Q. Exactly. You had no evidence that 2 Personix was --3 do recall. Do you recall having any communications that you can say from memory 4 A. Correct. occurred with Mr. Jensen about Personix prior Q. -- doing this in Indiana, did you? 5 A. No, I said you may just want to to the time that this E-mail was sent? 6 check with Mark to see if there is any pattern A. I don't recall at this time. 8 O. And after this E-mail was sent up until the time of your last day of employment Q. And, in essence, what you were 9 at Anthem FEP, did you have any communications trying to do was to give a full and accurate 10 description of your concern to Mr. Jensen so with Mr. Jensen or anyone else about the 11 that he could go about his business and his job 12 Personix issue? of tracking this down to see if, in fact, this 13 A. I believe so. was a billing problem or fraud, right? 14 Q. Who? A. I was alerting him that there may 15 A. Mr. Jensen. be potential fraud, and I wanted to make sure Q. Tell me what you recall about any 16 that he got involved in it. My previous 17 additional conversations with Mr. Jensen. discussions with him had been orally, and I did A. I recall a week or so after this 18 him saying I haven't been able to find not find that he took sufficient measures to 19 make sure. So I finally decided I have got an 20 anything. You shouldn't have put that in item, I'm going to put it in writing. writing. I said why? He said, you know, you 21 Q. But, in essence, what you put in 22 know we are not putting stuff like this in writing is what you are saying is what you told writing. I said why? He said we just don't 23

want it in writing.

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Page 295 specifically about this incident earlier. I 1 had talked to him about other issues earlier. 2 3 Q. And the other issues had been --4 had also related to concerns you had about 5 Personix? 6 A. No, about other issues -- other 7 things within Anthem. Q. Including some of those we have 8 talked about earlier today? 9 10 A. Yes. Q. All right. But had you ever 11 talked to Mr. Jensen, to your recollection, 12 about Personix before you sent this E-mail? 13 14 A. I think I may have. Just in passing, I may have said something is not right 15 about these. He said, well, take -- you know, 16 17 look at them and see, and if anything comes of 18 it, let me know. But I don't know 19 specifically. 20 Q. Now, is that a conversation you recall or a conversation that might have 21 22 happened?

A. It's a conversation that may have

Q. So you don't really recall it?

Page 297 know, I needed to put it in writing, because I felt that I was not getting any attention from Personix, and I wanted you to take this one seriously. And he said I haven't found anything at this point. And then I don't recall speaking to him about that since that point. Q. And where did that conversation take place? A. I don't recall the specific place at this time. Q. How long did the conversation last? A. I don't recall the length of the conversation at this time. Q. Did you talk about any other issues with Mr. Jensen on that occasion besides the Personix issue? A. I don't recall the entire scope of the conversation at this time. Q. Was anybody else included in that conversation? A. I don't recall if anyone else was included in the conversation at this time.

Q. Did you take any notes in that

So I said, well, Michael, you

Andrew M. Garner, III